



**DEBRA BOWEN** | SECRETARY OF STATE | STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
BUSINESS PROGRAMS | UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE

1500 11th Street | Sacramento, CA 95814 | P.O. Box 942835 | Sacramento, CA 94235-0001 | (916) 653-3516 | [www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov)

June 1, 2008

## REDACTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

In order to protect personal privacy and in compliance with Section 9526.5 of the California Uniform Commercial Code (UCC), the Secretary of State's office (SOS) has removed ("redacted") social security numbers, if provided, from all UCC records filed prior to December 31, 2007. In addition, the SOS is redacting any social security number provided on a record filed on paper after January 1, 2008.

For each record that is redacted, the SOS maintains the original un-redacted official filing image and creates a redacted public filing image, which is available for UCC information requests. The un-redacted official filing image is available to the public pursuant to a subpoena or an order from a court of competent jurisdiction.

In the event that the SOS misses redacting a social security number from a UCC record, any person may notify the SOS and specify the file or document number of the record and the location of the social security number within the record, and the SOS will create a redacted public filing image of the record within 10 business days from the date of notification.

In addition, the SOS has made available a filing form pursuant to Section 9521 of the UCC that removes the space identified for the disclosure of the social security number of an individual. These UCC filing forms can be obtained by visiting the California Business Portal at [www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov) and clicking on the Forms & Fees link.

**UCC filings are public records. Please do not put people at risk of identify theft by including social security numbers on any documents for filing with the Secretary of State.**

For more information on identify theft, you may want to visit the California Office of Information Security & Privacy Protection (OISPP) website at [www.oispp.ca.gov](http://www.oispp.ca.gov) or review its consumer information on Social Security Number privacy available at [www.oispp.ca.gov/consumer\\_privacy/ssn.asp](http://www.oispp.ca.gov/consumer_privacy/ssn.asp).